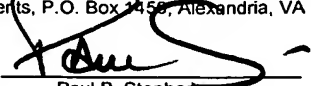


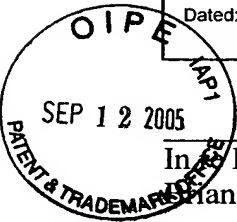
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: September 9, 2005 Signature: 

Paul B. Stephens

1PW
Docket No.: 30320/19116
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE


In Patent Application of:
Jian S. Kim et al.

Application No.: 10/803,424

Confirmation No.: 5534

Filed: March 18, 2004

Art Unit: 2874

For: OPTICAL MODULE WITH
LATCHING/DELATCHING MECHANISM

Examiner: P. T. H. Palmer

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed August 12, 2005, Applicant hereby provisionally elects claims 1-15 and 25-29 for continued examination.

Despite responding to the restriction, the applicants respectfully but strongly request reconsideration. The office action cites to MPEP §806.04 and the statement “[i]nventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects.”

Yet, the recitations of the claims would seem to suggest otherwise. Claim 1 recites an “apparatus for releasably latching an optical module,” and claim 16 recites a “computer board assembly” having an optical module.

1. An apparatus for releasably latching an optical module and a cage having a base and a latch opening disposed in the base, the apparatus comprising:

a housing having a pivot element and at least one receiving slot aligned along an axis;

16. A computer board assembly comprising:

an electronic computer board;

a cage mounted to the electronic computer board, the cage having a base and a latch recess disposed in the base;
an optical module selectively latchable with

a rotatable actuator having a connector disposed within the at least one receiving slot for movement about the axis, the connector having a cam rotatable between a first position and a second position;

a latching mechanism movable between a latching position and a delatching position, the latching mechanism comprising a slotted mating element for coupling to the pivot element for rotational movement relative thereto, a latch movable in response to rotational movement of the slotted mating element, and a cam follower; and a biasing apparatus disposed to bias the latching mechanism to the latching position.

the cage, the optical module comprising, a pivot element, at least one receiving slot aligned with an axis,

a rotatable actuator having a connector disposed within the at least one receiving slot for movement about the axis, a cam rotatable between a first position and a second position, in response to movement of the connector,

a latching mechanism movable between a latching position and a delatching position, the latching mechanism comprising a slotted mating element for coupling to the pivot element for rotation movement relative thereto, a latch movable in response to movement of the slotted mating element, and a cam follower, and a biasing apparatus disposed to bias the latching mechanism to the latching position.

The applicants request reconsideration of the restriction in light of MPEP §806.04, as well as MPEP §§809,809.03 regarding linking claims.

Dated: September 9, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Paul B. Stephens

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